

Message Text

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71

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CU-02 EB-07 COME-00 AID-05

TRSE-00 OMB-01 AGR-05 INT-05 OES-06 DOTE-00 HEW-04

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R 221759Z APR 76 TREAT AS ORIGINAL

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2706

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONGEN MONTREAL

USMISSION USUN NEWYORK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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MONTREAL FOR ICHO

PARIS FOR UNESCO

ROME FOR FODAG

VIENNA FOR IAEA&UNIDO

REF: STATE 072386

AND INCLUDING REPS FROM APPROPRIATE
GOG AGENCIES. IN MARCH 1976, THE SENIOR ECONOMIC ADVISOR IN THE
MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, THE GOG OFFICIAL WITH PRINCIPAL

RESPONSIBILITY FOR OTHER DONOR COORDINATION, WROTE SAYING THE
GOG PREFERRED TO DISCUSS PROGRAMS WITH EXTERNAL DONOR AGENCIES
INDIVIDUALLY. HE VOICED NO OBJECTION HOWEVER TO THE UNDP RES.
REP. HOLDING FORMAL OR INFORMAL MEETINGS INVOLVING OTHER DONORS.

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IN PRACTICE WE MAINTAIN CONTINUING CONTACT WITH MOST NON-BLOC
DONOR AGENCIES SUCH AS THE U.K; CANADA AND OF COURSE, UNDP.
WE EXCHANGE RELEVANT DOCUMENTS AND IN THE CASE OF CIDA, AT
LEAST, ARE INVITED TO REVIEW PROJECT PROPOSALS PRIOR TO APPROVAL.

THE LATTER IS NOT TRUE OF UNDP, EVEN THOUGH WE ARE GIVEN ACCESS

TO ITS PROGRAM FILES WHEN NECESSARY.

C. THE RECENTLY IMPOSED FINANCIAL RESTRAINTS HAVE AFFECTED UNDP PROJECTS BOTH IN GUYANA AND THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN. THEY HAVE LED TO A CURTAILMENT OF THE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM AND THE CANCELLATION OF SEVERAL PROJECTS WHICH ACCORDING TO THE RES. REP. WAS A BLESSING IN DISGUISE SINCE MOST OF THEM WERE OF MARGINAL VALUE. THE SEVEREST HANDICAP CAUSED BY THE FINANCIAL RESTRAINTS APPEARS TO BE LACK OF SUFFICIENT STAFF AT THE UNDP OFFICE. THE IPF FOR THE 1977-1981 PERIOD WILL BE ROUGHLY THE SAME AS FOR THE 1972-1976 PERIOD - DOLS 5,250,000, HOWEVER FUNDING ELEVEN PROJECTS AS OPPOSED TO 54 PROJECTS DURING THE 1972-76 PERIOD.

D. (1) ON APRIL 12, WE HAD OCCASION TO EXAMINE A ROUGH FIRST DRAFT OF THE 1977-1981 COUNTRY PROGRAM FOR GUYANA WHICH AT THAT TIME HAD NOT YET BEEN REVIEWED BY THE GOG. THE IPF FOR THE PERIOD IS DOLS 5,250,000 OR DOLS 1,050,000 PER YEAR. IT CONTAINED ELEVEN PROJECTS OF WHICH FOUR ARE UNDERWAY (TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY, URBAN PLANNING, FOREST INDUSTRIES, ADVANCED VOCATIONAL TRAINING); THREE ARE PROGRAMMED FOR 1979 (AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, REGIONAL PLANNING

PHASE II, VETERINARY SERVICES); AND FOUR ARE SCHEDULED FOR INITIATION IN 1980 (FOREST INDUSTRIES PHASE II, INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, TELECOMMUNICATIONS).

(2) IN THE ABSENCE OF A THIRD DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR GUYANA COVERING 1977-1981, THE INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS WERE DESIGNED IN CONSULTATION WITH OFFICIALS OF THE GOG MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. USAID WAS NOT CONSULTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROJECT PROPOSALS AND WE ARE NOT AWARE OF CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER DONOR AGENCIES EXCEPT THE IBRD CONCERNING THE FOREST INDUSTRIES PROJECT AS MENTIONED IN A. (2) ABOVE. THE 1977-81 COUNTRY PROGRAM DID NOT REVEAL ANY PARTICULAR SECTOR CONCENTRATION WITH INDIVIDUAL PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS SHORT AND GENERAL IN NATURE. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE DESCRIPTIONS WILL BECOME MORE SPECIFIC AFTER REVIEW WITH THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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GOG AND FURTHER REVISIONS.

(3) THE 1977-1981 PROGRAM IS EXPECTED TO BE FINALIZED IN MAY 1976 AT WHICH TIME A REVIEW OF THE 1972-76 PROGRAM WILL ALSO TAKE PLACE, INVOLVING UNDP STAFF, MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PERSONNEL AS WELL AS STAFF FROM OTHER APPROPRIATE GOG AGENCIES.

E. (1) WE CONSIDER UNDP PROJECTS IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR INCLUDING FORESTRY AND TOPOGRAPHIC MAPPING MOST RELEVANT TO FURTHERING GUYANA'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. A PROPOSED REGIONAL PAHO PROJECT FOR IMPROVING AND EXPANDING HEALTH DELIVERY SYSTEMS SHOULD ALSO BE GIVEN HIGH PRIORITY. WE HAVE RESERVATIONS CONCERNING THE RELEVANCE OF THE PROJECT IN URBAN PLANNING IN TERMS OF THE GOG'S DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES. FURTHERMORE, THE PREVIOUSLY EXTENSIVE FELLOWSHIP

PROGRAM IN FIELDS NOT ALWAYS DIRECTLY ADDRESSING DEVELOPMENT
PRIORITIES (I.E; LEGAL STUDIES) HAS PROVEN MARGINAL AND
ALREADY BEEN CURTAILED.

(2) FINANCIAL RESTRICTIONS HAVE HAD SOME BENEFICIAL IMPACT IN
STREAMLINING THE PROGRAM ELIMINATING MARGINAL ACTIVITIES AND
COMBINING RELATED ONES, I.E; THE DECREASE OF COUNTRY
PROJECTS FROM 54 IN SEPT. 1974 TO ELEVEN PLANNED FOR THE 1977-81
PERIOD. NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF THOSE RESTRICTIONS, PARTICULARLY ON THE
STAFFING OF THE UNDP OFFICE, HAVE ALREADY BEEN POINTED OUT.

(3) THE RES. REP. COMMENTED FAVORABLY ON THE TRIPARTITE
REVIEW SYSTEM AND WE HAVE NO FURTHER DETAILED INFORMATION TO CONFIRM
OR DENY.

F. USAID WAS NOT INVITED TO COMMENT ON THE 1977-81 COUNTRY PROGRAM.
WE WERE SHOWN THE DRAFT PROGRAM UPON OUR REQUEST AND GIVEN
THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT INFORMALLY. REGARDING THE PROGRAM'S
FORMAT, IT APPEARS SHORTER AND MORE GENERAL IN NATURE THAN THE
1972-76 PROGRAM.

G. THREE OF THE SEVEN UNDP PROFESSIONAL RESIDENT STAFF MEMBERS
ARE WOMEN, INCLUDING THE PROGRAM OFFICER FOR GUYANA. THE PAHO NUR-
SING SERVICES PROJECT INVOLVES WOMEN AS AGENTS AND BENEFICIARIES
AS WILL THE PROPOSED PAHO REGIONAL HEALTH DELIVERY SYSTEMS
PROJECT. WHILE NONE OF THE ELEVEN NEW UNDP PROJECTS MAY BE SPECIFI-
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CALLY DIRECTED AT WOMEN IT IS DIFFICULT IN GUYANA, DUE TO THE GOV'S
SOCIALIST PHILOSOPHY NOT TO INVOLVE WOMEN AT ALL LEVELS AND IN ALL
CAPACITIES IN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS. THIS HAS BEEN DISCUSSED IN DE-
TAIL IN GEORGETOWN 0326, FEB 14, 1976 AND TOAID A-15, FEB 17, 1976
AND APPLIES TO THE UNDP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AS WELL.
KREBS

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